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**From:** Lefkin, Howard <Howard.Lefkin@umassmed.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2006 9:19 AM  
**To:** Aquilino, James; Caloggero, Dina (DPH); Nickerson, John  
**Cc:** Cheney, Sally (DPH); Smole, Sandra (DPH); Han, Linda (DPH)  
**Subject:** RE: strange smell incident 6-22-0

We should also review the policy for odors in general. Ralph Timpieri addressed the issue at a DPH Safety Committee meeting. The procedure for odors was for the individual detecting the odor to report it first to his/her supervisor. If the supervisor deemed it an emergency, he/she would then call it into Security to be triaged through EH&S. The benefit of this approach is that there is immediate evaluation of an odor by an individual with experience and historical reference to potential sources. Ongoing odor or indoor air quality conditions can be reported directly to EH&S.

Howard

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**From:** Aquilino, James  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2006 3:43 PM  
**To:** Caloggero, Dina (DPH); Lefkin, Howard; Nickerson, John  
**Cc:** Cheney, Sally (DPH); Smole, Sandra (DPH); Han, Linda (DPH)  
**Subject:** RE: strange smell incident 6-22-0

I think part of the problem is the recent turnover in Security staff. We recently had a training session where the Security people were given the beeper and cell phone numbers for Lana and Howard. We should meet to discuss.

Jim

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**From:** Caloggero, Dina (DPH) [mailto:[Dina.Caloggero@state.ma.us](mailto:Dina.Caloggero@state.ma.us)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2006 10:35 AM  
**To:** Lefkin, Howard; Aquilino, James; Nickerson, John  
**Cc:** Cheney, Sally (DPH); Smole, Sandra (DPH); Han, Linda (DPH)  
**Subject:** strange smell incident 6-22-06

Hi All,

Sandy and I intend to discuss this at our next Lab Safety Meeting. I checked around the lab areas and there are currently signs posted that say to call the front desk (5911) about "strange smells". My understanding on this from the past was when some one called 5911; the front desk would then contact the Howard or Lana. I would like to meet quickly and review the current front desk procedures to see if this procedure is still included and then discuss how to correct this issue.

Dina

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**From:** Borne, Paul (DPH)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 07, 2006 4:38 PM  
**To:** Caloggero, Dina (DPH)  
**Subject:** FW: strange smell incident 6-22-06

Hey Dina this is a copy of the original email I sent out with a follow-up email below this one. I didn't know you were on the safety committee and just found out so I wanted to address this with you and the committee at the next meeting.

A strange odor was observed in the HIV Laboratory Room 708. Ext. 5911 was called. I was told that nobody was down there and I needed to call Chuck Miller. I was asked if the smell was poisonous. I left a message for Chuck Miller at 10:30 AM. It's our understanding that it is the responsibility of the in-house Help Line to react to these calls. It seems the front desk "security" is to busy writing tickets in the parking lot to respond to this situation. At 10:50 AM the front desk called telling us they were paging Lana but were unable to locate her.

Perhaps you can help us with this situation.

Thank you,

Paul A. Borne

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**From:** Borne, Paul (DPH)  
**Sent:** Monday, July 03, 2006 8:31 AM  
**To:** Lawler, Michael (DPH)  
**Subject:** RE: strange smell incident 6-22-06

Hello Mike,

Sorry I haven't gotten back to you sooner. From my initial 5-9-1-1 call at around 10:25am on 6-22-6, at 11:15 Mr. Lefkin came up to investigate the odor. One employee felt dizzy and we took her outside for fresh air. Others left the laboratory also. I feel the front desk was unable to handle the situation as they had told me to call Chuck Miller who doesn't really have anything to do with strange smells.

This is not the first time this situation has arisen where the reaction time has been inadequate. I have been keeping a log book of all situations dating back to 3-22-5.

There are concerns with my staff on lab safety, air quality and response time of the emergency 5-9-1-1 number.

Thanks,

Paul A. Borne  
6388

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**From:** Lawler, Michael (DPH)  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 01, 2006 8:31 AM  
**To:** Borne, Paul (DPH)  
**Subject:** strange smell incident 6-22-06

Paul,  
Can you brief me about the follow up and conclusion to your report of a strange smell on June 22, 2006?  
Mike Lawler  
MOSES steward  
SLI Safety Committee